

Amusements Co-Night.

ACADEMY OF DESIGN—Painting Exhibition.
 BOSTON OPERA HOUSE—Sings and dances.
 CARNegie—Sings and dances.
 DAILY THEATRE—Sings and dances.
 EDEN MUSIC—Sings and dances.
 GRAND OPERA—Sings and dances.
 MADISON SQUARE GARDEN—Sings and dances.
 NEW-YORK COMEDY THEATRE—Sings and dances.
 PRINCE OF WALES—Sings and dances.
 ST. JAMES THEATRE—Sings and dances.
 THEATRE COMIQUE—Sings and dances.
 TONY PATON'S THEATRE—Sings and dances.
 WALLACE'S THEATRE—Sings and dances.
 19 AVENUE THEATRE—Sings and dances.
 14TH AVENUE THEATRE—Sings and dances.

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New-York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

NEW-YORK, MONDAY, MAY 5.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—Some, if not all, on board the State of Florida are supposed to have been saved. An account of the Nile has been ordered so as to make a reconnaissance. The ex-Emperor Anna, of Austria, is dead. Defensive war preparations are being made in China. The Electrical Union Conference has terminated.

DOMESTIC.—The first fire was checked yesterday by the rain. A tract twenty-four miles square was devastated in Cecil County, Maryland. The Medicine Lodge burglars, who were hanged by a mob, were buried in one grave. A misplaced rail caused an accident to a train near Canton, Miss. A large party of men were reported to have invaded Indian Territory. The steamer B. S. Ford was burned to the water's edge at Chesapeake, Md.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.—The Spanish Embassy arrived on the Alaska yesterday. The contestants in the St. Jay's race tested. The successor of the Rev. Dr. Ewer, preached his first sermon. The funeral of W. C. Dutton was held. Patrick Keon killed his wife to death. A baker poisoned himself after trying to kill his three children. No further news was heard from the State of Florida.

THE WEATHER.—Irregular local observations indicate warmer and cloudy weather, with occasional light rain. Temperature yesterday: Highest, 63°; lowest, 50°; average, 58°.

Persons leaving town for the season, and summer travellers, can have THE DAILY TRIBUNE mailed to them, postpaid, for 75 cents per month, the address being changed as often as desired. THE DAILY TRIBUNE will be sent to any address in Europe for \$1.35 per month, which includes the ocean postage.

There would appear to have been negligence in providing a proper watch on board the steamer B. S. Ford, which was burned yesterday at Chesapeake, Md. The narrow escape of the officers and crew ought in that respect to prove a valuable lesson for them.

Great destruction has been caused in Cecil County, Maryland, by the reckless practice of some boys in setting fire to underbrush. A tract of timber eight miles in length and three feet wide has been destroyed, and the fire is still burning, threatening the county seat. Many forest fires may be accounted for by similar wanton or careless acts. Severe punishment should be inflicted on persons guilty of them. At the present time forest fires are raging in many parts of the country, causing a greater loss of valuable woodland than would follow in years by the acts of lumbermen. It is difficult, if not impossible, in the majority of cases, to trace the origin of these fires. But whenever the cause in any instance is known the merited punishment should follow.

A Vienna correspondent gives some further interesting facts in to-day's TRIBUNE, in regard to the Finnish crimes of Hugh Schenk and his accomplices. It is not likely that the field of action for such monsters as Schenk will be circumscribed because of his infamous death. In fact, our correspondent notes that the publication of the details of Schenk's horrible methods of crime led to no interruption in the silly customs that made them possible. There was no diminution in the number of girls, with a small stock of savings, who advertised the fact in the newspapers. Fortunately, such a practice is not common in this country. But there are men, who frequently get victimized here in a similar manner to that practised by Schenk, who promised valuable employment to persons able to deposit certain sums as "caution money."

It must be encouraging to the members of Congress to be told at this stage of the session that the Appropriations Committee has blocked out a good deal of work for them in the way of new legislation. It is about time that committee made a show of doing something. Five of the general appropriation bills have not yet been reported to the House. Not in years has the business of that body been so delayed. The Senate has been almost compelled to stop the consideration of new measures, because of the uselessness of attempting to get the House to act upon them. With business in this condition, and an important Presidential canvass close at hand, Mr. Randall's committee gives out bills that will attach to the remaining appropriation bills some new and important general legislation. At no other time has the Democratic majority offered stronger evidence of its hopeless imbecility.

The record of the Legislature thus far in the session has been a creditable one. It has not accomplished all that was expected of it, but there is time remaining for a considerable addition to the list of good measures that have received its sanction. The farmers have reason to be grateful for the passage of the law prohibiting the manufacture and sale of adulterations or imitations of butter and cheese. The act takes effect on July 1. The law is in the interest of the public health and of business morality as well as of the agricultural community. For this city a great deal has been gained in the

way of legislation, but several important measures still await final action. Chief among these is the so-called Tenure of Office bill, that concerning the fees of the County Clerk, and the Civil Service bill, all of which are pending in the Assembly. Those measures should be passed as they come from the Senate. In the way of forestry reform the least the Assembly can do is to pass Senator Lansing's bill. There ought to be no unnecessary delay over those measures.

THAT "FIRST BALLOT."

There is some consolation for those whose personal abuse of Mr. Blaine has failed. "He has only 373 votes," they say, "and therefore can not be nominated on the first ballot, and if he is not nominated then, he never will be." Those to whom these theories give joy have about a month in which to make the most of them. Their abuse has failed to affect the people, who have gone on electing more delegates for Mr. Blaine from Republican States than for all other candidates put together. Now they hope that, by some log-rolling of delegates, the man preferred by the greatest number of Republicans may be put aside, and that somebody not preferred by any considerable number of Republicans may be forced upon the convention. Well, we shall see. The first ballot has not been cast yet.

We are informed, with much bluntness, that this time the tail is going to wag the dog. It may be. But there is also a bare possibility that Republican delegates may prefer not to be bullied. Indeed, there has never been a National Republican Convention before in which a little minority could dictate by threatening to stab the candidate, if not permitted to have their own way. It may be that we are to see that sort of convention. But delegates usually care more for their constituents than for a squad of professional bullies. It is well to notice that there is only one set of men that have threatened to stab the Republican candidate, if he does not please them. The friends of Mr. Arthur have been earnest and ardent, but they have not threatened to elect a Democrat if Mr. Blaine, or Mr. Edmunds, or Mr. Sherman, or Mr. Logan should be nominated. The friends of Mr. Blaine have been earnest and ardent, but they have not threatened to elect a Democrat if Mr. Arthur, or Mr. Edmunds, or Mr. Sherman, or Mr. Logan should be nominated. The friends of Mr. Blaine have been earnest and ardent, but they have not threatened to elect a Democrat if Mr. Arthur, or Mr. Edmunds, or Mr. Sherman, or Mr. Logan should be nominated. The friends of Mr. Blaine have been earnest and ardent, but they have not threatened to elect a Democrat if Mr. Arthur, or Mr. Edmunds, or Mr. Sherman, or Mr. Logan should be nominated.

The result of the first ballot may not be exactly what some now expect. It is conceivable that many delegates, who have personally preferred other candidates, may think it the right thing and the only wise thing to respect the declared will of a large proportion of the Republican voters. It is conceivable that the delegates may prefer to teach the lesson that, in Republican conventions, the tail does not wag the dog. It may seem to them wise to decide, once for all, that it shall not be necessary for a Republican to declare himself a bolter in order to have his preferences respected. It would soon be a queer party, if the only men who have any voice in the choice of a candidate should be those who declare that they care nothing for the principles of the party unless they can have their own way. Hitherto, it has been deemed necessary to show quite a different spirit in order to get even a respectful hearing.

THE PUBLIC WORKS INQUIRY.

The public has been waiting with some curiosity for the report of the Senate Committee which investigated the Department of Public Works. The Herald, with commendable enterprise, has undertaken to meet the demand. It publishes what it alleges to be a report prepared for the committee. There is one thing to be said for The Herald report—it is a good one; and what is more, it is borne out by the evidence. The committee gave the work of preparing a report to its counsel, General Tracy, and Mr. Whitridge. Their familiarity with the evidence and the law would naturally enable them to reach the conclusions found in the alleged report published in The Herald. But as the Senate has no authority to remove Commissioner Thompson, it is not likely that the committee will make such a recommendation; unless it is for the benefit of Mayor Edson, who is the only person authorized to act in such a case.

If the committee's report is so to be such as The Herald intimates, what is to become of the one prepared under Mr. Thompson's direction, type-written copies of which, it is reported, were furnished to certain members of the committee. That type-written report contained such appropriate marginal instructions as the following: "make this stronger if possible," "strike this out," "tone this down," etc. Whether or not those directions were put there for use in reporting signatures, or whether that draft of a report was merely intended as a suggestion of what Mr. Thompson would like, will perhaps appear hereafter.

So far as the public is concerned, they are not waiting for any committee report, whatever it may be, in order to form an opinion in regard to the maladministration of the Public Works Department. It is not likely that there is much difference of opinion among the members of the Senate Committee on that point, however they may differ as to what has been brought out by the testimony in the limited investigation they have made. Charges have been twice presented to the Mayor, by reputable citizens, against Commissioner Thompson, but they have not been acted upon. A former Senate Committee undertook an investigation, but mysteriously abandoned it. President Astor and others have repeatedly shown before the Board of Estimate that the Department has been managed in a recklessly extravagant manner. And the transcripts of the official records in the Finance Department, published last December in THE TRIBUNE, proved conclusively that the charges against Mr. Thompson, so often repeated by reputable taxpayers, were not without strong foundation. The testimony taken by the Senate Committee, a brief abstract of which has been published, only confirmed what was before well known.

The expenditures of the Public Works Department greatly exceed those of any other branch of the city government. As a political machine the Department has been used to consummate bargains and deals with the other Democratic factions, and to defeat every effort of reputable Democrats to reform the city government. Hence, more can be accomplished for the cause of municipal reform by the participation of this one Department than in almost any other way. But the prospect at present is not promising. The ramifications of the Department are so great that it has been able to defeat the many honorable efforts that have been made to purify it. The Tenure-of-office bill, now before the Assembly, offers about the only hope of change. Even that has not yet escaped the dangerous influence that has de-

feated all similar efforts to reach the Department.

A TARIFF DILEMMA.

The efforts of Mr. Morrison to patch his Tariff bill do not seem to be crowned with success as yet. One of the most convincing proofs of Democratic incapacity is found in the inability of even the ablest leaders to recognize absolute impossibilities, when met face to face. Even so shrewd a man as Mr. Morrison goes about, week after week, vainly trying to reconcile the utterly irreconcilable, and to make yes and no mean the same thing. The Ohio wool Democrats say that they have no chance whatever for the future, unless they can somehow satisfy the demand for restoration of the wool duties. But the Morrison Democrats are equally certain that they have no chance for political existence, unless they show that their outcry for reduction of duties has been something more than dishonest bullying. By what conceivable process both can be satisfied, Mr. Morrison would like to know. But if he had been sensible enough to be fit for a party leader, he would have known from the first that both could not be satisfied, and that any attempt to satisfy both would only bring himself into disgrace.

The compromises proposed, as was unavoidable in such a case, have been not compromises at all, but surrenders. Mr. Morrison, it is said, has manifested a willingness to cut out of his bill all reduction of duties on wool, which would have made him and his bill ridiculous. But not even that would satisfy the other end of the party. The demand which is said to have been made on their behalf by Mr. Geddes of Ohio, is that the duties of the Act of 1867 be restored. And why not? That was exactly what the Democratic demagogues promised in the campaign last year. The voters who trusted the party at that time, however foolish they were then, have sense enough to demand performance of the pledge before they trust the Democrats again.

MONEY AND BUSINESS.

It was a week of speculative failures. The failure of Mr. Keene, one of the most noted speculators in stocks, was a result rather than a cause of lower prices for stocks than have been seen for years. The disclosures in the case of Phillips made the grain market here uncomfortable, and the collapse of Emley the St. Louis speculator in Chicago, may be said to have disclosed one object of the recent sharp decline in grain. But none of these events had much influence upon the general course of business. When the speculators who had been "gunning for shorts" in wheat succeeded in some cases, and found some other people unable to pay their losses, the prices dropped off in the absence of any sufficient demand for export or home consumption, and what closed about 4 cents below the price of the preceding Saturday, came about 2½ cents, and about the same. Before the failure of Mr. Keene was announced, an effort to rally the stock market had begun, which was in part successful, though the results of the week's trading were not very brilliant.

The extent of the depression in stocks, from which some recovery began to appear on Tuesday, may be shown by a brief comparison. Taking as a test the thirty-eight stocks of which the sales were largest in 1883, with the West Shore first mortgage bonds and the Erie bonds, we find that the average price of these forty securities at the lowest point on Tuesday was only \$62.41. The average price of the same securities at other dates was as follows:

1882, close of year	\$63.60
1883, close of year	68.00
1884, February 21	71.34
1884, end of February	66.65
1884, end of March	64.19
1884, lowest, April 29	62.41
1884, close, April 30	63.30
1884, close, May 1	61.27
1884, close, May 2	61.47
1884, close, May 3	63.09

Though the recovery last week was about 1½ cents on the dollar of par value, it was small compared with the previous severe shrinkage in value. Last week the most violent attacks were made upon Western Union, which fell to \$59½, and Union Pacific, which fell to \$57½, but both recovered to some extent before the close. The money market was not sufficiently disturbed to affect the markets, though gold continued to go abroad, and Secretary Folger issued another call for bonds. The latter step is officially said to be based upon a discovery in the Treasury department that the surplus revenue is "running up." If one counts useless silver brought as surplus revenue, and notes paid and held in hand as surplus cash available, one can generally find a satisfactory state of things. The fact is that the amount of gold held by the Treasury in excess of gold certificates outstanding was \$16,000,000 less on Saturday last than on the 1st of January, while the amount of silver owned was \$14,400,000 more, and the amount of paid notes on hand \$5,000,000 more. Deducting the redeemed notes, the Treasury has still lost \$11,000,000 of its gold, but because it has heaped up \$14,000,000 more silver that it cannot use without dishonor, the Secretary solemnly concludes that his surplus is increasing, and issues a call which will take \$10,000,000 more gold out of the Treasury before the end of the fiscal year.

The banks continued to lose reserve, and have left only \$800,000 over the legal requirement. Last week's loss was all in specie, and even then the averages did not fully exhibit the effect of the exports. But it is also to be said, on the other hand, that the payment of interest by the Treasury and the reported receipts of currency from the interior are not visible in the statement, and the course of exchange toward the close of the week indicated that exports might abate for a time and the banks recover in reserve. The most unfavorable feature is that merchandise exports still continue very small. Within sixty days new wheat will be cut, and it is hardly strange that buyers at \$1.07 for such wheat as is on hand are rather scarce. The oil producers, it is said, are combining to restrict production. Whether they succeed in any such movement or not, they certainly have power to put the price of crude oil at a level that will put the price of about \$1.01½. The coffee market, with a shade more activity, was a little stronger today, tea and sugar were weaker; cotton fell off an eighth, and provisions sympathized with the decline in grain.

THE CONDITION OF THE ARMY.

It is a lamentable fact that the majority of Americans know little, and care less, about the daily life of the officers and men of the Regular Army. The Military Service Institution is doing a good work in bringing the affairs of the Army before the public, and papers recently read before it have called attention to several glaring evils. Whatever may be the difference of opinion as to the proper size of the standing Army, all will agree that that Army we have should be as efficient as possible, and the military system of the Government as broad and comprehensive as it can be made. Heretofore we have slid along in the old grooves and—those bright

spirits which have appeared from time to time in the Army have labored, with no encouragement and little appreciation, in a task to the burdens of which they have finally succumbed. How few, in civil life, considered it as anything in which they were particularly interested, when poor Upton, laboring to remedy a defect in his system of tactics—a system which he fondly hoped would place the Army of his country ahead of that of other nations—was driven to insanity and suicide.

In spite of the lack of interest taken in the Army, and the little encouragement it receives, it maintains a standard of excellence which, under the circumstances, is remarkable. West Point furnishes a thorough military education; the Army officers are well versed in their profession, and the standard of enlisted men is high. Our cavalry on the plain are an extremely effective body of horse. The wants of the Army, as they have from time to time been enumerated in papers read before the Military Service Institution, are too apparent to be questioned. With soldiers and officers living in damp and unwholesome barracks, with no general staff, and with the military life of the Army frittered away in small garrisons, instead of having at least one or two large posts for the instruction of all arms, it is high time that something was done by the Government to remedy the existing evils.

TALMAGE ON MOVING-DAY.

Dr. Talmage has been lecturing on the significance of "moving-day." Many persons before him have run their intellects, so to speak, against great mystery, and have come to grief. He is, however, entitled to his guess, which is substantially as follows: "The first of May moving is to be ascribed to a deep defect in our social and economic, a defect so radical, so wide, so overmastering that no one but God can ever eradicate it." This defect is due to Mr. Talmage, the inability of every man to enter the house he lives in. We are afraid that the mystery of "moving-day" is as dark as ever when Mr. Talmage has done with it. For it is most easily demonstrated that his explanation does not explain. Then the same general conditions obtain in scores of other cities. In London and Paris and Liverpool and Vienna and Berlin, in Boston and Chicago and St. Louis and San Francisco, millions of people live in hired dwellings just as they do in New-York. But in none of those cities is it a custom to change residences on the 1st of May or on any other day. Elsewhere people often spend long lives in rented houses. Here they can do the same if they want to. But the truth is they do not want to, and herein lies the mystery.

It is not the fact that rents are raised every year, thus driving tenants out. Very often people go from their homes to more costly houses. Very often also they go from more to less comfortable houses, and that without any visible or intelligible impelling motives. The real cause of this annual migration has hitherto been wrapped in an obscurity as great as that which shrouds the migrations of those queer little beasts the homings, who every year travel in hundreds of thousands to the sea, into the northward plunge, and swimming seaward, perish. Science has discovered many things, but though it knows why the dog turns himself round before he lies down, and why the Miceena refused to be defiled, and how the *aripennis* was evolved into the horse of the period, it has thus far failed to ascertain the origin or the meaning of New-York "moving-day."

Dr. Talmage has made a characteristic plunge at the subject, but he has not succeeded in penetrating the secret. It has nothing to do with the land question or the rent question. More probably, it is a movement engendered by the typical nervous restlessness of the New-Yorker, which perhaps crops out thus in a blind impulse to change his entire surroundings for no explicable reason. But the man who guesses this riddle will have to be penetrated with the mystic emotion which is at the bottom of the annual celebration.

WHAT IS THE MATTER.

In March the unfavorable aspect of our foreign commerce became clearly visible. Prior to that month, though the exports had been much smaller than in the previous year, and the imports much larger, there was, nevertheless, a margin of excess of exports in every month since July, rising gradually to \$23,300,000 in November, and then shrinking rapidly to \$4,500,000 in February. But in March the imports of merchandise exceeded the exports by \$5,000,000. In the corresponding month of 1883 the excess of exports over imports had been \$10,712,217, so that the difference between the two months in balance of foreign trade was no less than \$21,778,332. The cause, it appears, is not an unnatural increase of imports. Though the value imported is larger than in any other month since last July, it is about the same as in 1883 and 1881, and it happened in 1882 also that the imports were larger in March than in any other month.

The great change is in the amount of exports, which have been declining every month since last November, and fell in March to about \$50,000,000, against \$77,000,000 in March, 1883. December is usually the largest month after a decrease in January and February, the volume of exports usually rises in March nearly to the maximum. But the outward movement of products was arrested in December last. After \$80,000,000 in November, instead of the usual large increase, there came a fall in December to \$74,000,000; then the decline to \$74,000,000 in January and \$61,000,000 in February was according to the usual course, but in March, instead of a large increase, there came a further decline to \$50,000,000. Hence it is not strange that the net output of gold, which had risen from nothing in January to \$3,000,000 in February, suddenly mounted to over \$11,000,000 in March, and has been still larger in April. The exports of gold were \$12,244,135, and the imports only \$900,801. The net exports of silver were less than \$900,000.

The return of immigration for March shows that the current of labor moving to this country holds up wonderfully well, considering the recent depression in many industries. There can be no more trustworthy barometer of the comparative condition of laborers in this and in other countries than the movement of people seeking new homes, and guided, as immigrants in these days almost always are, by the experience of friends and neighbors who have gone before them. In March, 38,597 came to this country, against 38,730 in March, 1883, and during the nine months ending March 31, the number of immigrants was 361,825, against 339,214 during the corresponding months of the previous year. This does not indicate that the present condition of labor is quite as favorable in this country as it formerly was—and we well know it is not. But it indicates that the depression elsewhere has been general also, and so nearly as great as it has been here that the tide of immigration has been but little affected. The movement from different countries has varied suggestively. The number from Austria increases largely, and there is substantially no decrease from Ireland, while from England and Wales the decrease is small. But the decrease in immigration from Germany is about 10 per cent for the nine months, and from Scotland nearly the same; from Italy it is over 20 per cent, from Norway over 20 per cent, from Sweden about 33 per cent, from Canada less than 10 per cent, and from other unnamed countries about 9 per cent. It may be inferred that England, Ireland and Austria are suffering rather more industrially at present than other countries.

"When Mr. Gladstone makes what is called a 'great speech,'" says Mr. Ruskin, "in nine cases out of ten he uses his splendid gifts of oratory not for the elucidation of his subject, but for its vaporization in a cloud of words. . . . The majority of orators of science have no soul for anything beyond dynamics, the laws of chemistry, and the like. They cannot appreciate the beauties of nature, and they regard the imaginative man—one who can feel the poetry of life—as a donkey regards his rider: as an obnoxious person whom he must throw off if he possibly can. Such a man is Tyndal. The real scientist is a man who can embrace not only the laws that be, but who can feel to the full the beauty

and truth of all that nature has to show, as the Creator has made them. Such a man was Van Humboldt; such a man was Linnaeus; such a man was Sir Isaac Newton."

NOTES ON INDUSTRY AND TRADE.

DISCOVERIES OF TIN.—At the United States Assay Office are specimens of pure tin obtained by assaying rocks forwarded by Professor Bailey, the geologist of Wyoming Territory. It is stated that the specimens sent average over 15 per cent pure tin, and that vast masses of such rock are found in the Black Hills, while the "black sand," which has so long annoyed the gold miners in that region, and is found in great quantities, appears to be "stream tin," brought down from the hills by the action of the water, and assaying about 47 per cent pure tin. These statements, if true, are of the utmost importance to the country. Deposits as rich as these are said to be, exceeding by far the ore of the Cornwall mines, would soon supply the needs of this country, and affect the price of tin the world over. The Australian mines were first worked in 1872; last year they supplied 10,625 tons of tin, against 16,701 tons from the Straits, and 8,114 tons from Banca and Billiton, and 9,300 tons from Cornwall. While the East Indies yield over half the world's production, which was 45,770 tons last year, the United States probably consumes more tin than any other nation. The imports during eight months, ending with February, were 19,803, 199 pounds, or 2,475,400 pounds per month. But besides this consumption, 1,105 tons per month, or 13,260 tons yearly, this country also imports tin and tinned plates at the rate of 162,000 tons during the same eight months, or 213,000 tons yearly, and though these have only a thin coating of tin on the iron plates, a vast quantity of the more costly metal is thus consumed. Hence it may be estimated that this country consumes about one-third of all the tin produced in the world, and the cost now, at about 18 cents per pound, or \$125